

# Liss Infant School

## Our Values

The Department for Education states that “schools should promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.”

At Liss Infant School, our core values reinforce these principles in the following ways:

### **Democracy:**

Democracy is embedded as a fundamental part of the school’s ethos.

Pupils are always listened to by adults and they are taught to listen carefully and with their whole bodies to others, respecting everyone’s right to have their opinions and voices heard.

Pupils also have the opportunities to share their thoughts and ideas through our School Council, assemblies and in regular class Circle times.

Pupils have regular opportunities to vote on school initiatives and events and to contribute to the choice of curriculum topics.

### **The Rule of Law:**

The importance of laws and codes of behaviour, whether they apply to the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced. Our school has clear rules and expectations for the way in which everyone conducts themselves and these expectations are deeply embedded in our learning and in our daily lives. We involve pupils, staff, parents and governors in establishing the school rules and each class regularly discusses and reaffirms them in order to ensure a safe, well regulated environment which is conducive to learning.

Through the PSHE curriculum, children are taught about their rights and responsibilities, as individuals and as a community and how laws exist to protect us all. They are also taught to understand that they are responsible for the consequences of their actions and that sanctions will be levied when rules are broken.

**Individual Liberty:**

Pupils are actively encouraged to make choices in all aspects of their school lives and they are provided with a safe and supportive environment in which to do so. Pupils can choose how and where they spend their playtimes and they are taught to manage risk in their play. They are also able to choose from a variety of after school clubs and at lunchtimes they can select their meal choices. In their learning, pupils are given opportunities to select individual levels of challenge and methods of recording. Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and to exercise their rights and personal freedoms safely and responsibly and to respect the rights of others to do the same.

**Mutual Respect:**

One of our four school rules is “to be polite and show respect for one another and for our school environment” and mutual respect forms a key part of our school’s values and ethos. Daily assemblies, Golden assemblies and class Circle times are regularly used to reinforce and celebrate the worth and importance of every individual and the value of empathy, kindness and consideration.

**Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs:**

At Liss Infant School we enhance pupils’ understanding of different faiths and beliefs through our PSHE and R.E. curriculum and through themed weeks in which cultural diversity is explored and celebrated. Pupils learn about different beliefs, customs and traditions and develop an understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society.